2/1/67

Dear Jerry,

You got a plug in the Phila Daily News of 1/27 reading:

"The Monthly BOOKS mag says William Manchester had problems also with his Mencken biog, that Knopf had to persuade Manchester to chop out much material it felt he either "switched" or "misunderstood".

If I do a Manchester Machivaelli I'll be interested in that, for it is a great kindness to say of what he did in Death is just to misunderstand or switch. Lie and invent are closer.

I've just strated to read the piece I told you I'd drafted. If I can can get it done today and my wife can type it before I leave I'll have a copy to lend you, I hope Monday.

Among his other failings, Manchester cannot do simple arithmetic, cannot understand clear pictures and cannot get names straight.

The item was in Jack O'Brian's column.

Best,
H